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Weber of course enjoyed the advantage of Beethoven's development
of Orchestral effect, and he strongly illustrated the tendency
towards the Romantic phase of art - Indeed it is partly
through the strength of this impulse that he was so
successful as an ~~composer~~ essentially German composer. For
it is in Germany that the strength of the Romantic tendency
lies.

Among Beethoven's younger contemporaries it is possibly expedient
to remember ~~the~~ Johann Nepomuk Hummel, though he really
occupies no niche at all in history. He was born in 1778
at Pressburg and became a pupil of Mozart for a time. He was
looked upon as the foremost of German pianists of his time
and wrote a vast number of works for the pianoforte, which
are brilliant, pretentious, artificial, elegant and devoid
of poetry and individuality. Quite unromantic, and in
that sense reactionary, and not representative of the movement
of the day. The most that can be said of him is that

he developed the ornamented element in pianoforte technique.
He died in 1837 at Weimar.

A much more interesting figure was Francesco Spontini, who
was born in 1774 only 4 years after Beethoven - at Magdeburg,

